

The Scarlet Ibis

Symbol Chart In “The Scarlet Ibis,” some of the people, places, things, and events stand both for themselves and for something beyond themselves. Fill out the symbol chart below to see how symbols convey meaning in the story. In the first column are passages from the story. Locate a symbol from each passage, and write it in the second column. Then, write the meaning of the symbol in the third column. The first row is done for you. Fill in the bottom row with a symbolic story passage that you find on your own.

Story Passage	Symbol	Meaning
That winter we didn’t make much progress, for I was in school and Doodle suffered from one bad cold after another. But when spring came, rich and warm, we raised our sights again (lines 258–260).	spring	new start; rebirth
When Peter was ready to go to sleep, the peacock spread his magnificent tail, enfolding the boy gently like a closing go-to-sleep flower, burying him in the gloriously iridescent, rustling vortex (lines 233–236).		
Sadly, we all looked back at the bird. A scarlet ibis! How many miles it had traveled to die like this, in <i>our</i> yard, beneath the bleeding tree (lines 372–374).		